

WI-232  
Eliza Huffington House  
Allen  
Private

c. 1883

Located in the center of the village of Allen, the Eliza Huffington house repeats a form of dwelling repeatedly built across the Eastern Shore throughout much of the nineteenth century. The two-story, side hall/parlor plan house form suited many Eastern Shore families on farms as well as in rural villages. The side entrance, marked by a two-light transom and heavily molded four-panel door opens into a modest sized hall fitted with the principal stair. The hall provides direct access to the adjacent parlor and a dining room located in the rear wing. The back room was used as the kitchen, and it contains a secondary, more utilitarian stair that rises to the back bedroom.

Construction of this two-story frame house is estimated to date to the early 1880s during the ownership of Eliza Huffington, who purchased what was then known as "Dashiell's Lot" in February 1883. She paid \$450 for the property and presumably financed construction of the house shortly afterwards. In her will, probated in 1890, she bequeathed "all that house and lot and property where I reside at Allen" to her daughters, Ella Drucilla Huffington and Esther Rheeta Huffington (Wendt) for the balance of their lives. The property remained in Huffington family hands until the mid 1950s when Jesse M. Pollitt and his wife Agnes M. Pollitt acquired the house and 2 acres.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Eliza Huffington House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-232

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-232

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Eliza Huffington House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 3430 Allen Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Allen ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Ruth Keeler

street & number P O Box 26 telephone no.:

city, town Allen state and zip code Maryland 21810

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 56, P 196  
liber 954

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 840

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Eliza Huffington house stands at 3430 Allen Road in the village of Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, two-bay frame house faces east with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1870-80, the two-story, side hall/parlor frame house is supported on a low brick foundation, and the exterior is covered with vinyl siding. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the single-pile main block is a two-story dining room and kitchen wing, which is extended farther by a single-story garage.

The east (main) facade is a two-bay elevation with a side entrance and an adjacent six-over-six sash window. The front door features four heavily molded panels with arched top panels. A three-light transom tops the entrance. The second floor is lighted by a pair of six-over-six sash windows. Rising through the roof is an off-center brick chimney finished with a corbelled cap.

The north side of the house is a blind wall sheathed with vinyl siding aside from a six-over-six sash window that lights the attic. The south gable end, on the other hand, is marked by a triple window on the first floor, and single six-over-six sash windows light the second floor and attic.

The west (rear) wall of the main block is largely covered by the two-story dining room and service wing. A former two-story porch, which stretched across the south side of the wing, has been enclosed. A narrow brick chimney rises through the center portion of the wing.

The interior has been modified over the years. Surviving in the front hall is the original late nineteenth century turned baluster, quarter-turn staircase. The front hall partition, as well as the rear hall wall, have been opened to enlarge the downstairs space. Surviving in the parlor is a third quarter of the nineteenth century mantel with plain pilasters supporting a wide frieze with an exaggerated ogee scrolled bottom edge. Fixed atop the frieze is a thick mantel shelf.

The rear wing has been remodeled over the years as well. An original winder stair in the back room has been reworked with yellow pine, and the plain, yellow pine mantel has been refinished.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Located in the center of the village of Allen, the Eliza Huffington house repeats a form of dwelling repeatedly built across the Eastern Shore throughout much of the nineteenth century. The two-story, side hall/parlor plan house form suited many Eastern Shore families on farms as well as in rural villages. The side entrance, marked by a two-light transom and heavily molded four-panel door opens into a modest sized hall fitted with the principal stair. The hall provides direct access to the adjacent parlor and a dining room located in the rear wing. The back room was used as the kitchen, and it contains a secondary, more utilitarian stair that rises to the back bedroom.

Construction of this two-story frame house is estimated to date to the early 1880s during the ownership of Eliza Huffington, who purchased what was then known as "Dashliell's Lot" in February 1883.(Wicomico County Land Record, SPT 5/317) She paid \$450 for the property and presumably financed construction of the house shortly afterwards. In her will, probated in 1890, she bequeathed "all that house and lot and property where I reside at Allen" to her daughters, Ella Drucilla Huffington and Esther Rheeta Huffington (Wendt) for the balance of their lives. The property remained in Huffington family hands until the mid 1950s when Jesse M. Pollitt and his wife Agnes M. Pollitt acquired the house and 2 acres. (Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 405/116)

The Eliza Huffington house deserves listing in Category C, which indicates that alterations should be considered carefully since it is a structure that adjoins a property classified in the A or B category and whose impact as a contributor to the character of the village must be considered.

Survey No. WI-232

**Acreage of nominated property** \_\_\_\_\_

**Quadrangle name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Quadrangle scale** \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References** do NOT complete UTM references

**A**

Zone Easting Northing

The figure shows three separate coordinate axes. The first axis is labeled 'Zone' and has two tick marks. The second axis is labeled 'Easting' and has four tick marks. The third axis is labeled 'Northing' and has four tick marks. Each axis is represented by a horizontal line with vertical tick marks extending upwards.

**B**

Zone Easting Northing

**c**

D 

E 

F

**G**

H | |    | | | | | |    | | | | | |

### Verbal boundary description and justification

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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**name/title** Paul B Touart, Architectural Historian

**organization** Private Consultant

**date** 10/23/95

**street & number** P O Box 5

**telephone** 410-651-1094

city or town                      Westover

state	Maryland	21871
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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
504-73323

WI-232  
Eliza Huffington House  
Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

954/840                      Mary Lee Pollitt Kolb  
                              Kathryn P. Carey  
                              Richard M. Pollitt  
                              Melissa Politt Bright

to

2/10/1981                    Ruth K. Keeler

AJS 937/190                Richard M. Pollitt, Personal Representative  
                              of Jesse M. Pollitt

to

1/4/1980                    Mary Lee Pollitt Kolb, undivided  $\frac{1}{4}$  interest  
                              Kathryn P. Carey, undivided  $\frac{1}{4}$  interest  
                              Richard M. Pollitt, undivided  $\frac{1}{4}$  interest  
                              Melissa Pollitt Bright, undivided  $\frac{1}{4}$  interest

JWTS 405/116                Louise E. Elzey, et al.

to

2/27/1956                    Jesse M. Pollitt  
                              Agnes M. Pollitt  
                              "Dashiehl's Lot"            2 acres

Will Book                    Last will and testament of Eliza Huffington

to

7/1/1890                    Ella Drucilla Huffington  
                              Esther Rheeta Huffington Wendt

and then to Emily Waller, Williamanna Whayland,  
and their heirs and assigns

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Page 2

Eliza Huffington House  
Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title contined

SPT 5/317

Mary P. Toadvine, et al.  
(Mary P. Dashiell, Lizzie W. Dashiell)

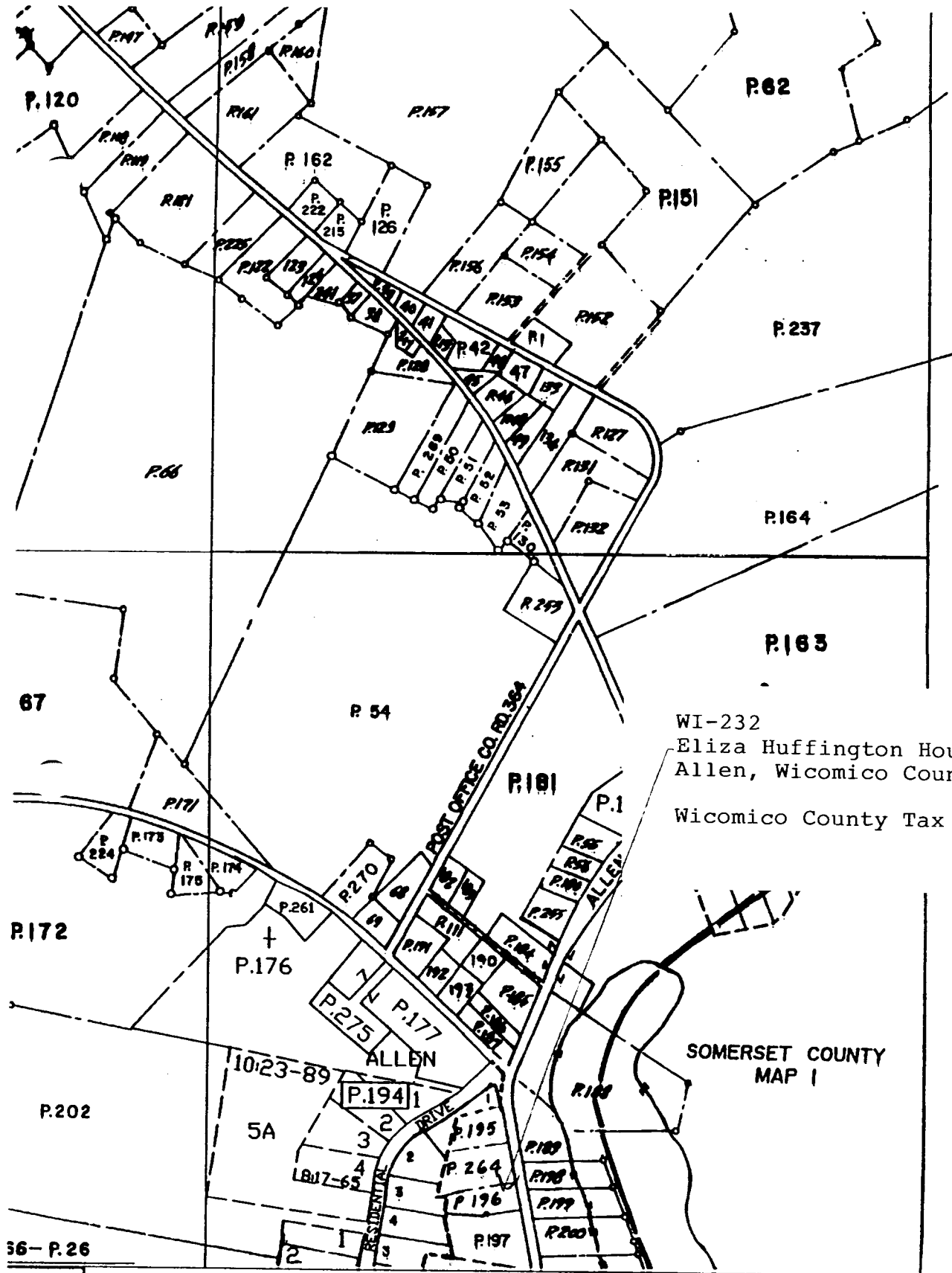
to

2/15/1883

Eliza Huffington, wife of James Huffington

\$450.00 "Dashiell's Lot"





WI-232  
Eliza Huffington House  
Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Wicomico County Tax Map 56  
Parcel 196

SOMERSET COUNTY  
MAP 1



# WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

69722.2mN  
51524.2mE

MAP NO.  
**56**

1175

1178

168

171



WI-232  
Eliza Huffington House  
Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Eden, Maryland Quadrangle  
1983

42'30"

'39

(PRINCESS ANNE)

5860 II NW

SCALE 1:24 000

PRINCESS ANNE

40'

'42



W1-232

ELIZA HURLOCKTON HOUSE

ALIEN, WOODHILL CEMETERY, W.D.

SOUTHERN RIVERVIEW

1875, PAID 7.00, PAID 2.00

W.F. (W.D. 1875) TOWN

71